Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 23, 2001 TO MARCH 30, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Gross Domestic Product (1992 $millions)	January 799,790	0.3%	3.2%	Between December and January 2000, Canadian GDP grew at 0.3%. Growth was led by the expansion of wholesale trade (1.7%), mining, quarrying and oil wells (1.5%), retail trade (1.1%), and construction (1.0%). Economic growth was hindered by weakness in the manufacturing sector which declined 0.1%. Weak demand for electronics and automotive products was primarily responsible for the decline. Overall, 15 of 22 major manufacturing industry groups increased output in January. Goods-producing industries remained unchanged, while Services producing industries increased 0.5%. Canadian GDP was 3.2% higher in January than in January 1999.
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	February 146.5	1.5%	4.7%	Increasing mineral fuel prices in February caused the raw materials price index to increase 1.5% from January. The increase would have been 0.1% were it not for the fall in the Canadian dollar pushing up prices of commodities quoted in U.S. dollars. Excluding the impact of mineral fuels, the year-over-year increase in February would have been 1.6% instead of 4.7%.
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	February 129.3	0.5%	2.6%	Between February 2000 and February 2001, the industrial product price index grew at 2.6%. Industrial prices increased 0.5% from January, due higher prices of motor vehicles, primary metals, and petroleum products. Falling lumber prices put a downward pressure on the index.